



**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)  
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

## ***Burma – Cyclone***

Fact Sheet #1 Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

November 17, 2008

*Note: The last fact sheet was dated July 30, 2008.*

### **KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- On October 19, the Tripartite Core Group, comprising representatives from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Government of Burma (GOB), and the U.N., launched the first Periodic Review to monitor program progress, identify outstanding humanitarian needs, and inform future response planning. The review builds on the Post-Nargis Joint Assessment completed in July to ensure comprehensive and credible monitoring of the humanitarian situation through at least March 2009, when the U.N. Revised Appeal ends.
- According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the U.N. Revised Appeal for \$482 million remained 55 percent funded as of October 23, with a shortfall of more than 60 percent for early recovery activities.
- USAID/OFDA partners continue to implement livelihoods recovery programs in the most affected areas of Ayeyarwady and Rangoon divisions, including microfinance recapitalization and agricultural input provision.
- To date, total U.S. Government (USG) assistance of nearly \$69 million includes \$9 million of USAID/OFDA funding to support early recovery activities among cyclone-affected populations.
- Following the deactivation of the USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) in July, USAID/OFDA deployed an Emergency Disaster Response Coordinator (EDRC) to Rangoon to conduct humanitarian assessments, monitor USG-funded programs, and coordinate with humanitarian organizations.

<b>ESTIMATED NUMBERS AT A GLANCE</b>		<b>SOURCE</b>
<b>Total Dead</b>	84,537	GOB – June 24, 2008
<b>Total Missing</b>	53,836	GOB – June 24, 2008
<b>Total Number Affected</b>	2.4 million	OCHA – October 24, 2008

### **TOTAL FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING**

<b>USAID/OFDA Assistance to Burma .....</b>	<b>\$28,589,549</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>1</sup> Assistance to Burma .....</b>	<b>\$28,063,200</b>
<b>DOD<sup>2</sup> Assistance to Burma .....</b>	<b>\$12,273,152</b>
<b>Total USG Humanitarian Assistance to Burma.....</b>	<b>\$68,925,901</b>

### **CURRENT SITUATION**

- Preliminary findings of the Interagency Standing Committee's Real-Time Evaluation (RTE) of the Cyclone Nargis humanitarian response indicate that despite limited international access during the early phase of the crisis, the emergency response proved largely successful in preventing additional deaths following the initial impact of the cyclone. The access afforded to community-based organizations, private sector entities, individuals, religious groups, and GOB agencies facilitated accurate and timely targeting of areas vulnerable to disease outbreaks and nutritional decline. International access and assistance gradually increased as the emergency phase continued, helping to sustain the effectiveness and scope of emergency programs.
- The RTE team also identified livelihoods, disaster risk reduction (DRR), and community consultation as areas requiring increased attention during the early recovery and reconstruction phases. In the medium-term, through the Post-Nargis Recovery and Preparedness Plan (PONREPP), the humanitarian community aims to bolster partner cooperation in the education, health, livelihoods, shelter, DRR, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) sectors. PONREPP activities are intended to succeed current U.N. Revised Appeal programs in April 2009. The humanitarian community is scheduled to present the PONREPP at the joint ASEAN/U.N. summit in mid-December.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)

### ***Early Recovery***

- Currently, the GOB has no plans to provide capital to affected individuals for the resumption of livelihoods, but continues to supply limited assets, such as agricultural inputs.
- During a number of assessments conducted by the USAID/OFDA EDRC in affected areas, villagers identified cash as a priority resource required to resume livelihoods.
- In response to the need for capital, USAID/OFDA provided \$1 million to the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) and the non-governmental organization (NGO) PACT to recapitalize an existing microfinance program in nearly 1,000 affected villages.

### ***Food Security and Assistance***

- Preliminary results of the joint U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization and U.N. World Food Program (WFP) Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission are scheduled for release in early November. The assessment gathered data on the food supply situation at the national and sub-national levels for the upcoming market year.
- The U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) estimates that the current planting season will yield 60 percent of a normal harvest. However, the USAID/OFDA EDRC notes that estimates vary among humanitarian organizations. Both the quantity and quality of the harvest remain difficult to determine.
- To mitigate the effects of the cyclone on the upcoming harvest, USAID/OFDA supported NGO partners International Development Enterprises (IDE) through Church World Services (CWS), Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US), World Concern (WC), and ACTED to assist vulnerable communities resume agricultural activities during the planting season.
- According to the USAID/OFDA EDRC, WFP plans to implement food-for-work programs and begin to re-target food resources, in addition to distributing food to affected populations.
- In FY 2008, USAID/FFP provided approximately \$28 million in P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance through WFP. The assistance includes 16,620 metric tons (MT) of rice, 3,550 MT of chickpeas, 3,170 MT of vegetable oil, and 300 MT of corn-soya blend. USAID/FFP will continue to monitor food security in cyclone-affected areas.

### ***Humanitarian Coordination and Information Sharing***

- OCHA anticipates that the U.N. cluster system in Burma will remain operational at least until the end of the U.N. Revised Appeal in April 2009.
- The USAID/OFDA EDRC notes that OCHA is focusing on improving coordination at the township level, while providing training to and building the capacity of national staff, local authorities, and the private sector.

### ***WASH***

- From October 16 to 17, the USAID/OFDA EDRC visited Bogale Township, Ayeyarwady Division, with partner World Vision (WV), to assess the humanitarian situation and monitor programs. During the assessment, villagers reported to the USAID/OFDA EDRC that access to safe drinking water, particularly during the upcoming dry season, remains a priority.
- USAID/OFDA provided a total of nearly \$900,000 to WV to implement an integrated program with the Bogale community involving WASH improvements, as well as child protection activities, psychosocial services, and food distributions.
- USAID/OFDA is supporting an additional six partners to address ongoing WASH issues.

### **USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

- On May 5, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Shari Villarosa issued a disaster declaration in Burma due to the effects of Cyclone Nargis. In response, USAID/OFDA immediately provided \$250,000 to U.N. agencies for shelter and WASH programs and deployed a USAID/DART on May 6. On May 7, USAID/OFDA activated a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team to support the USAID/DART.
- To date, USAID/OFDA has provided a total of more than \$28 million for emergency relief commodities and programs in agriculture and food security, economy and market systems, health, nutrition, protection, shelter and settlements, humanitarian coordination, logistics, and WASH.
- From May 12 to June 22, DOD completed 185 airlifts to deliver USAID/OFDA emergency relief supplies, valued at more than \$4 million, as well as DOD, U.N., NGO, and Government of Thailand commodities. The USAID/OFDA commodities, distributed primarily through NGOs, benefited at least 445,000 individuals and included 38,800 hygiene kits, 6,500 rolls of plastic sheeting, 15,000 mosquito nets, 95,300 ten-liter water containers, 10 water treatment units, 12 Zodiac boats, and fourteen 10,000-liter water storage bladders. USAID/OFDA funded 12 flights from regional warehouses in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and Pisa, Italy, to deliver the commodities to Utapao, Thailand, for transportation to Burma on the USG air bridge.

## USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA IN FY 2008

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
ACTED	Agriculture and Food Security; Economy and Market Systems	Bogale, Dedaye, Labutta townships, Ayeyarwady Division	\$1,600,000
Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA)	Shelter and Settlements; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Labutta Township, Ayeyarwady Division	\$400,000
American Red Cross	Emergency Relief Commodities; Shelter Kits	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
ASEAN	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$50,000
CWS and IDE	Agriculture and Food Security; Economy and Market Systems	Bogale, Maubin, Mawlamyinegyun, Labutta, Kyaiklat, Pyapon townships, Ayeyarwady Division; Kungyangon, Kawhmu, Kyauktan, Twantay townships, Rangoon Division	\$3,975,703
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$250,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Emergency Relief Commodities; Health; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Kungyangon Township, Rangoon Division; Wakema Township, Ayeyarwady Division	\$500,000
MENTOR	Health	Ayeyarwady Division	\$500,000
Medical Emergency Relief International (MERLIN)	Health; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Labutta Township, Ayeyarwady Division	\$749,874
PACT	Economy and Market Systems; Shelter and Settlements; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Bogale, Labutta, Mawlamyinegyun townships, Ayeyarwady Division	\$554,135
SC/US	Economy and Market Systems; Emergency Relief Supplies; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Myaungmya, Ngapudaw townships, Ayeyarwady Division	\$2,280,629
Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$100,000
UNICEF	Health; Nutrition; Protection; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$1,900,000
UNDP/PACT	Economy and Market Systems	Bogale, Labutta, Mawlamyinegyun townships, Ayeyarwady Division	\$1,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$250,000

U.N. World Health Organization (WHO)	Health	Countrywide	\$500,000
WFP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$4,050,000
WC	Agriculture and Food Security; Economy and Market Systems	Bogale, Labutta, Kyaiklat townships, Ayeyarwady Division; Kungyangon, Twantay, Dala townships, Rangoon Division	\$499,975
WV	Economy and Market Systems; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Bogale Township, Ayeyarwady Division	\$892,433
Implementing NGO	Emergency Relief Commodities; Health	Affected Areas	\$399,484
Action Contre la Faim (ACF), ADRA, CARE, IOM, Save the Children (SC), UNICEF	Emergency Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$4,223,789 <sup>2</sup>
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Burma	\$874,976
USAID	Logistics and Transport	Burma	\$2,038,551
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$28,589,549</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	23,640 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$28,063,200
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$28,063,200</b>
<b>DOD ASSISTANCE<sup>4</sup></b>			
DOD	Air Transport; Logistics	Affected Areas	\$12,273,152
<b>TOTAL DOD</b>			<b>\$12,273,152</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA IN FY 2008</b>			<b>\$68,925,901</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of November 17, 2008.

<sup>2</sup> Includes \$600,000 in USAID/OFDA-purchased DOD commodities.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of anticipated or obligated food assistance.

<sup>4</sup> Numbers reflect value of assistance after USAID/OFDA reimbursement of \$600,000.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Information on identifying such organizations is available in the “How Can I Help” section of [www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov) – Keyword: Cyclone Nargis, or by calling The Center for International Disaster Information (CIDI) at 703-276-1914.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID: [www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov) – Keyword: Donations
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or (703) 276-1914
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)
- In addition to USG contributions, the U.S. private sector has actively responded to the cyclone in Burma. More information can be found at:
  - U.S. Chamber of Commerce Business Civic Leadership Center: [www.uschamber.com/bclc/default](http://www.uschamber.com/bclc/default)
  - Business Roundtable Partnership for Disaster Response: [www.respondtodisaster.com/mambo/](http://www.respondtodisaster.com/mambo/)

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at [http://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/humanitarian\\_assistance/disaster\\_assistance/](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/)